

### REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 61-91 and 116-120 are pending in the application with Claims 61 and 73 being independent. Claims 61 and 73 have been amended for clarity with respect to the specification and drawings, and not for reasons relating to the statutory requirements for patentability.

The undersigned and Applicants' Canadian representative, Mr. Omar Nassif, would like to thank Examiner Maiorino for the cordial and productive interview of June 15, 2004. The Examiner's helpful comments and suggestions were instrumental in preparing this response.

Claims 61-91 and 116-120 were rejected as being unpatentable over Bonner, Shaknovich, and Hicks, for the reasons detailed at pages 2-5 of the Office Action. Applicants respectfully traverse all art rejections.

As discussed at the interview, each of independent Claims 61 and 73 recites a novel combination of structure and/or function whereby an endovascular sleeve for delivering a pair of guidewires to a bifurcated body passageway of a patient includes a first tubular passageway and a second tubular passageway fixed with respect to one another. The first tubular passageway has a first distal end and a first proximal end, and the second tubular passageway has a second distal end and a second proximal end. *The first distal end extends distally beyond the second distal*

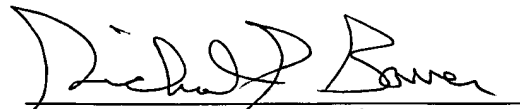
end to define a junction which is configured to abut against a crotch in the bifurcated body passageway of the patient, and the second tubular passageway second proximal end extends from the patient.

In contrast, none of the cited art (including Bonner, Shaknovich, and Hicks), whether taken individually or in combination, discloses or suggests this unique combination of features. As discussed at the interview, Bonner fails to disclose or suggest any sleeve which both (i) abuts against a crotch in the bifurcated body passageway of the patient and (ii) extends from the patient. See, for example, Fig. 5 of Bonner.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Attorney for Applicants  
Richard P. Bauer  
Registration No. 31,588

Patent Administrator  
KATTEN MUCHIN ZAVIS ROSENMAN  
525 West Monroe Street  
Suite 1600  
Chicago, Illinois 60661-3693  
Facsimile No.: (312) 902-1061